

approved: 05/22/18

## TOWNSHEND SELECT BOARD

### Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2018

**Present:** Kathy Hege; Crystal Mansfield; Will Bissonnette; Robert Wright; Steve Frisk;

**In Attendance:** Joseph Daigneault; Kurt Bostrom; Richard Melanson, (BCTV); Craig Hunt

1. **Call To Order:** Hege called the meeting to Order at 6:10 p.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:** Frisk made a motion: **To approve the Minutes of April 24, 2018**, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by those present.
3. **Additions and Deletions:** None at this time.
4. **Reports: Highway Report: Street Sweeping:** Bostrom conveyed that both Bazin Brothers and BDM could be contracted for street-sweeping services, with Bazin Brothers charging less per hour and available sooner. Following brief discussion, **Wright made a motion: To contract with Bazin Brothers to sweep Townshend streets, as directed, for an amount not to exceed \$1,000.00**, seconded by Frisk and carried by those present.

**Bridge #42:** Bostrom relayed that Clark & Sons had removed the old bridge #42 on West Hill Road and were installing the new bridge. The road should be open again to traffic on Friday, May 11th. Discussion centered upon the inconvenience for Townshend residents living west of the bridge to travel and especially through Wardsboro at this time of year.

**Front-end Loader:** Bostrom reported that he had heard from Nortrax, Milton Cat and Townline Equipment, each of which was preparing a bid price on a new front-end loader for the Select Board's next meeting on May 22nd. Townshend's 2000 John Deere 544, Bostrom said, was being assessed by each of the dealers as a trade-in for credit.

**Gale Road Property Damage:** Hege read a letter from Elaine Murray and then a follow-up letter from Charles Murray regarding a lamp post that was allegedly knocked down by town equipment. Bostrom denied that Townshend's highway crew was responsible. Bissonnette then made a motion: **To have Townshend offset the costs of replacing the lamp post by offering the Murrays up to \$150.00**, seconded by Mansfield. The motion, when called, failed to pass by those present.

**Equipment Repairs:** Asked by Frisk about having Faith Ford replace ball joints in T-2, Bostrom stated that as the truck would need an alignment following the work, and since

the highway crew was too-busy right now, it made sense to just take it in. Bostrom then, as requested, presented Frisk with a list of suspension repairs done on T-9 in the past year.

**Vacation Schedules:** Wright reminded Bostrom to provide a schedule of planned vacation time for the highway crew this coming year and Bostrom agreed to bring one in.

**Town Clerk's Report:** The Select Board did not receive a Town Clerk's report this week.

**Treasurer's Report:** Daigneault reported that the General Fund Sweep account held a balance of \$898,713.89 and that the Checking account held \$ 30,000.00.

**5. Warrants:** Wright made motions to approve the Warrants, all seconded by Frisk:

050801 Payroll	\$ 8,776.77, carried by those present, with one opposed.
050802 Taxes	3,415.93, carried by those present.
050803 General	8,343.51, carried by those present.
050804 General	1,364.13, carried by those present.
050805 Highway	4,309.67, carried by those present.
050806 Equipment	9.00, carried by those present.
050807 Equipment	451.68, carried by those present.
050808 Equipment	1,371.41, carried by those present.

**6. Members of the Public:** None at this time.

**7. Correspondence:** None at this time.

**8. Old Business:** None at this time.

**9. New Business: Bartlett Tree Co. Proposal:** The Board delayed making a decision on a proposal from Bartlett Tree for fertilization of the trees on the Town Common until the trees bud-out more and assessments can be made as to their general health.

**Grand List Certifications:** A Certification that no appeals were pending for Townshend's 2016 Grand List, as of January 2017, was briefly discussed as a document that the Listers apparently forgot to prepare for the Select Board's approval. Bissonnette then made a motion: **To sign the document certifying that no appeals were pending against Townshend's 2016 Grand List**, seconded by Hege and carried by those present with one abstention.

Similarly, a Certification that no appeals were pending for Townshend's 2017 Grand List, as of January 2018, was briefly discussed as a document that the Listers apparently

also forgot to prepare for the Select Board's approval. Bissonnette then made a motion: **To sign the document certifying that no appeals were pending against Townshend's 2017 Grand List**, seconded by Hege and carried by those present with one abstention.

**Johnson Tax Sale Property:** Hege informed the Board of having heard from Townshend's attorneys that Townshend's Writ of Possession for the Johnson property on Route 30 in West Townshend, issued by the Court last November, had expired and would need to be re-issued by the Court. Though the property was purchased by the Town of Townshend at Tax Sale in May 2016, the expiration of the Writ of Possession appears to be because the Windham County Sheriff's Office failed to serve the plaintiff(s) with an Eviction Notice in a timely fashion.

The Town, however, has been provided with the right to enter upon and inspect the property, as well as enter into and inspect the premises subsequent to a the posting of a Notice of Inspection, dated May 9, 2018.

Bissonnette made a motion: **To post the Notice of Inspection, dated May 9, 2018, on the Johnson property in West Townshend and inspect the grounds and buildings**, seconded by Wright and carried by those present.

**Officer Appointments:** Mansfield made a motion: **To recommend to the Vermont Department of Health that Timothy Shafer, M.D., is the Select Board's choice for appointment as Townshend's Health Officer for the 2018-2023 term**, seconded by Bissonnette and carried by consent of those present.

**10. Executive Session:** None at this time.

**11. Meeting Schedules: Regular Meeting: May 22, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.**

**12. Adjournment:** Mansfield made a motion: **To adjourn at 6:52 p.m.**, carried by those present.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig K. Hunt